

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-07 /075 W
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R 301716Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3705

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 20188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PDIP, GV, GW

SUBJECT: VISIT BY FRG MINISTER OF STATE WISCHNEWSKI TO
GUINEA

REF: CONAKRY 2324

1. FRG FONOFF DIRECTOR FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN
AFFAIRS (WEVER) TELLS US HE CONSIDERS WISCHNEWSKI'S
RECENT VISIT TO GUINEA A SUCCESS. WEVER, A FORMER
FRG AMBASSADOR TO GUINEA IN EARLY 1960'S, ACCOMPANIED
WISCHNEWSKI ON TRIP.

2. WEVER'S DESCRIPTION OF VISIT CLOSELY PARALLELED
OUTLINE PROVIDED REFTEL. SEVERAL OF HIS COMMENTS, HOW-
EVER, MAY BE OF INTEREST:

A. WISCHNEWSKI, WHO HAS BEEN USED ON SIMILAR GOOD-
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WILL VISITS ELSEWHERE IN THE THIRD WORLD, WAS

SPECIFICALLY CHOSEN FOR THIS TRIP BECAUSE OF HIS CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH SEKOU TOURE. (AS AN EXAMPLE, SEKOU TOURE AND HIS WIFE HAVE STAYED IN WISCHNEWSKI'S HOME ON EUROPEAN VISITS.) MUCH OF THE WARMTH EVIDENT IN GOG RECEPTION WAS, WEVER BELIEVES, DUE TO THIS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP.

B. FROM FRG POINT OF VIEW, MISSION OF VISIT WAS STRICTLY ONE OF GOODWILL. FRG-GOG RELATIONS HAVE BEEN FAR FROM CLOSE SINCE SEKOU TOURE'S 1970 CHARGES OF FRG COMPLICITY IN INVASION OF CONAKRY AND SEVERING OF RELATIONS. MORE RECENT ATTEMPTS AT REBUILDING RELATIONS (I.E., REOPENING OF EMBASSY IN CONAKRY UNDER CHARGE IN EARLY 1976) HAVE BEEN MARRED BY GOG ATTACKS ON ALLEGED FRG CONSPIRACY TO OVERTHROW SEKOU TOURE GOVERNMENT IN AUGUST 1976. MAJOR PURPOSE OF WISCHNEWSKI VISIT WAS, BY RENEWING OLD PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS, TO DEFUSE THE SITUATION AND SERVE AS A FIRST REAL STEP TOWARD REESTABLISHING FRIENDLY RELATIONS.

C. IN KEEPING WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT, SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS WERE DISCUSSED ONLY PERIPHERALLY. A GOG DELEGATION IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT BONN IN EARLY 1977 TO WORK OUT PROBLEMS OF OUTSTANDING DEBTS AND NEW ASSISTANCE. IN PRIVATE TALKS SEKOU TOURE TOLD WISCHNEWSKI THAT HE HOPED FOR A QUICK RESTORATION OF FRG AID PROGRAMS TO "BALANCE GUINEA'S DEPENDENCE ON THE EAST."

D. ALTHOUGH WEVER WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE WARM AND FRIENDLY RECEPTION OFFERED BY SEKOU TOURE (ESPECIALLY AFTER CATHARTIC EXCHANGE ON 1970 INVASION), HE FEARS THAT SEKOU TOURE HAS HOPES FOR RESTORATION OF GOG-FRG RELATIONSHIP ON BASIS OF "GOOD OLD DAYS." THIS MAY HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY REAPPEARANCE OF TWO "OLD FRIENDS" FROM THAT PERIOD (WISCHNEWSKI AND WEVER); NEVERTHELESS, WEVER BELIEVES THAT SEKOU TOURE WILL BE DISAPPOINTED WHEN HE FINDS THAT NEW REALITIES SEEM TO PRECLUDE RETURN TO CLOSE RELATIONSHIP OF PAST.

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3. SEKOU TOURE AND WISCHNEWSKI DID AGREE TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS IN NEAR FUTURE. WEVER BELIEVES THAT GOG AMBASSADOR IN PARIS WILL ALSO BE GIVEN PORTFOLIO FOR BONN. WEVER HAS RECOMMENDED THAT FRG CHARGE IN CONAKRY BE PROMOTED TO AMBASSADOR TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF POSITIVE ASSOCIATIONS AND PERSONAL CONTACT WITH SEKOU TOURE GAINED DURING VISIT. ACCORDING TO

WEVER, NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN ON HIS
RECOMMENDATION, NOR IS ONE EXPECTED UNTIL AFTER
HOLIDAYS.
STOESSEL

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